



June 29, 2010

The Honorable Ted Strickland
Governor of Ohio
Riffe Center, 30th Floor
77 South High Street
Columbus, OH 43215-6108

Dear Governor Strickland:

You and I had the opportunity to meet on December 2, 2008 during the Award for Excellence in Environmental Stewardship ceremony in Columbus. During that event, you made the point that rapid adoption of sustainable practices can help businesses eliminate waste, reduce costs, and innovate. That has certainly been the case for Lube Stop.

Last summer, Lube Stop participated in the summit to launch Sustainable Cleveland 2019. Convened by Mayor Frank Jackson, SC 2019 is a plan to leverage those same sustainable practices to drive economic development in Northeast Ohio. It is a revolutionary approach and must succeed. Ongoing, demonstrable signs of progress are needed to ensure the success of SC 2019 and the region's long-term economic prosperity.

It is this context that mandates the inclusion of a safe, pedestrian cycling and walking lane in the final design of the new I-90/71 Innerbelt Bridge. The Innerbelt Bridge is one of the most visible landmarks in Northeast Ohio and its redesign must symbolize the direction the region is headed, not where it has been. All of the bidding design firms have experience building pedestrian-friendly bridges that must be leveraged. In March, you ordered ODOT to reexamine the inclusion of a pedestrian lane. It is ironic that ODOT's June response studied 24 similar bridges in 12 different states to conclude it was not feasible.

Successful adoption of sustainable practices does not begin with a cost-benefit analysis and a proven return, rather the inclusion of sustainable principles in every decision, big and small combined with a visible commitment to change. If financial justification is required, then today's announcement that Ohio is the 13th fattest state in the country, according to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, resulting in \$3.3 billion a year in additional medical costs should suffice.

Governor Strickland, I applaud your ongoing support for a pedestrian lane in the final plan design of the Innerbelt Bridge and request that you direct ODOT to develop a more realistic cost-benefit analysis to make it a reality. You have the full support of Lube Stop as well as many other businesses in Northeast Ohio on this once-in-a-generation opportunity.

Respectfully Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas M. Morley". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Thomas M. Morley, President

cc: Mayor Frank Jackson, City of Cleveland; Jolene Molitoris, ODOT; Howard Maier, NOACA